



MUSIC IDIOMS

English Idioms: Music

Like a broken record



Someone who repeats the same thing again and again.

British English also like a stuck record

I hate **sounding like a broken record**, but I have to say again, we must do more to help.

He's always complaining about the way she treats him. He **sounds like a broken record!**

I hate to **sound like a broken record**, but we just don't have enough people on the payroll to work efficiently.

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, let me repeat: it will be difficult to do well in the exam without attending classes regularly

English Idioms: Music

Blow the whistle



Reporting an illegal or unacceptable activity to the authorities.

The citizens' group **blew the whistle on** the street gangs by calling the police.

She was fired for **blowing the whistle on** the bank's mismanagement of accounts, but she then sued the bank.

In some jurisdictions, it is illegal to fire a person for **blowing the whistle on** an employer.

English Idioms: Music

Call the tune



**Making important decisions
and controlling a situation.**

He was technically running the business, but his father still **called the tune**.

Nancy said that it's her turn to **call the tune**.

In this part of the mortgage market, the banks **call the tune**.

English Idioms: Music

Elevator music



Pleasant but boring recorded music
that is played in public places.

also known as **Muzak**, **piped music**, **weather music**, or **lift music**

Why can't this store turn off this awful **elevator music** and put it on 94.5 instead of this boring crap

English Idioms: Music

For a song



Buying or selling something
at a very cheap price.

The property is going **for a song** because they need to sell it fast.

No one else wanted it, so I picked it up **for a song**.

I could buy this house **for a song**, because it's so ugly.

English Idioms: Music

Jam session



Playing improvised music
in an informal setting.

This is going to require a lot of late night, one-on-one **jam sessions** with me, and we're going to bounce ideas off of each other, you're going to have to take calls for me, any time, day or night.

English Idioms: Music

Ring a bell



Something that sounds familiar.

His name **rings a bell** but I can't think where we met.

Does the name 'Fitzpatrick' **ring a bell**?

No, I'm sorry, that description **doesn't ring any bells with me**.

Bob: Have we met before?

Geoff: Well, your face **rings a bell**.



EXERCISE

She bought the painting for

She bought the painting for a song

The name but I couldn't remember where I had heard it before.

The name **rang a bell** but I
couldn't remember where I had heard it before.

The boy's mother sounds like when she tells him to clean his room.

The boy's mother sounds like a **broken record** when she tells him to clean his room.

The employeeon the illegal practices of
the company.

The employee **blew the whistle** on the illegal practices of the company.

The artist was neither famous nor popular,
so he sold his picture

The artist was neither famous nor popular,
so he sold his picture **for a song**.

Nobody can be sure which of the two leaders
will now call the.....

Nobody can be sure which of the two leaders
will now **call the tune.**

I knew my company was polluting the water,
but I was afraid I would lose my job if I.....

I knew my company was polluting the water,
but I was afraid I would lose my job if I **blew
the whistle on it.**

We were having a littleduring the meeting and we came up with some really amazing ideas.

We were having a little **jam session** during the meeting and we came up with some really amazing ideas.

Because the shop's closing down, most of the stock is going

Because the shop's closing down, most of the
stock is going **for a song**

Blond, tall and wearing heels? No, I'm sorry,
that description doesn'tme.

Blond, tall and wearing heels? No, I'm sorry,
that description doesn't **ring**
any bells with me.

I wish they would play something else in the mall instead of this boring

I wish they would play something else in the mall instead of this boring **elevator music.**

He's always complaining about the way she treats him. He sounds

He's always complaining about the way she treats him. He sounds like a **broken record!**

Juan was keen to in the meeting. He wanted to take control of the team

Juan was keen to **call the tune** in the meeting.
He wanted to take control of the team